



Nebraska Agri-Facts

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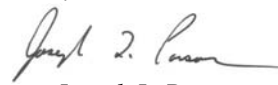
Released February 28, 2008

Survey Results Included

- Cattle on Feed
- Annual Milk Production
- Annual Chicken & Eggs
- Potato Stocks
- Crop Values
- Wheat Varieties

Dear Nebraska Farmers, Ranchers and Agribusinesses:

The following narrative and tables are from recently published reports by USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board. These data are direct results of information provided by Nebraska producers and agribusinesses to the surveys conducted each month by this office. Thank you for your response to these surveys.


Joseph L. Parsons
Director

Nebraska Cattle on Feed Down 1 Percent

Nebraska feedlots, with capacities of 1,000 or more head, contained 2.51 million cattle on feed on February 1, down 1 percent from last year but 1 percent above February 1, 2006. Placements of cattle into feedlots during January totaled 380,000 head, down 10 percent from 2007 and 11 percent below 2006. Fed cattle marketings for the month of January totaled 390,000 head, down 4 percent from last year but 10 percent above 2006. Other disappearance during January totaled 10,000 head compared with 15,000 head during January 2007 and 10,000 head during January 2006.

U.S. Cattle on Feed Up 2 Percent

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 12.0 million head on February 1, 2008. The inventory was 2 percent above February 1, 2007 but 1 percent below February 1, 2006. Placements in feedlots during January totaled 1.79 million, 6 percent above 2007 but 19 percent below 2006. Marketings of fed cattle during January totaled 1.86 million, 1 percent above 2007 and 3 percent above 2006. Other disappearance totaled 60,000 during January, 38 percent below 2007 and 28 percent below 2006.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings and Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, by Month, State, and United States, 2007-2008

State	February 1 Number on Feed ¹			January Placements			January Marketings			January Other Disappearance ²		
	2007	2008	<u>2008</u> 2007	2007	2008	<u>2008</u> 2007	2007	2008	<u>2008</u> 2007	2007	2008	<u>2008</u> 2007
	1,000 Head	Percent		1,000 Head	Percent		1,000 Head	Percent		1,000 Head	Percent	
Arizona	334	373	112	33	35	106	32	29	91	1	1	100
California	540	555	103	64	76	119	72	72	100	2	9	450
Colorado	1,040	1,090	105	155	180	116	200	185	93	15	5	33
Idaho	255	235	92	43	43	100	47	42	89	1	1	100
Iowa	530	570	108	76	72	95	64	69	108	2	3	150
Kansas	2,430	2,430	100	365	405	111	445	445	100	30	10	33
Nebraska	2,540	2,510	99	420	380	90	405	390	96	15	10	67
New Mexico	135	160	119	8	16	200	8	15	188	1	1	100
Oklahoma	350	355	101	50	54	108	48	47	98	2	2	100
South Dakota	230	230	100	50	45	90	42	43	102	3	2	67
Texas	2,800	2,930	105	340	400	118	390	420	108	20	10	50
Washington	177	153	86	27	27	100	33	36	109	1	2	200
Other States	365	375	103	59	54	92	55	65	118	4	4	100
United States	11,726	11,966	102	1,690	1,787	106	1,841	1,858	101	97	60	62

¹ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

² Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

Source: USDA NASS Cattle on Feed, February 22, 2008

**Milk Cows: Licensed Dairy Herds, Number, and Milk Produced by Quarter,
Nebraska and United States, 2006-2007**

State and Month	Licensed Dairy Herds ¹		Milk Cows		Production per Cow		Production	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	<i>Number</i>		<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>	
Nebraska								
January - March			60	60			277	279
April - June			61	59			289	275
July - September			61	58			275	260
October - December			61	57			277	261
Annual	380	350	61	59	18,328	18,220	1,118	1,075
United States - Annual	62,070	59,135	9,112	9,158	19,951	20,267	181,796	185,602

¹ Average number of dairy farms licensed to sell milk, based on counts collected from State and other regulatory agencies.

Source: USDA NASS Milk Production, February 15, 2008

Chickens: Inventory By Type, Nebraska and United States, December 1, 2006-2007

Item	Nebraska			United States		
	2006	2007	2007/2006	2006	2007	2007/2006
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>
All Chickens	13,165	12,261	93	454,422	454,902	100
Total Layers	11,606	10,113	87	349,888	344,492	98
Total pullets	1,559	2,148	138	96,596	102,301	106
Other chickens	0	0		7,938	8,109	102

Source: USDA NASS Chickens and Eggs 2007 Summary, February 2008

Eggs: Production, Average Number and Eggs per Layer, Nebraska and United States 2006-2007

Item	Nebraska		United States	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
Eggs Produced (<i>million</i>)	3,129	2,984	91,328	90,581
Average Number of Layers (<i>thousand</i>)	11,718	10,945	347,880	344,385
Eggs per Layer (<i>number</i>)	267	273	266	270

Source: USDA NASS Chickens and Eggs 2007 Summary, February 2008

**Fall Potatoes: 2007 Production and
February 1, 2008 Stocks¹**

State	Crop of 2007	
	Production	Total Stocks Feb. 1, 2008
	<i>1,000 Cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
California	4,223	1,400
Colorado	20,981	11,200
Idaho	131,650	74,000
Maine	16,530	9,600
Michigan	14,700	6,200
Minnesota	20,680	9,900
Montana	3,696	3,600
Nebraska	8,051	3,700
New York	5,216	1,200
North Dakota	23,660	10,000
Oregon	20,238	13,900
Washington	102,300	48,000
Wisconsin	28,160	13,500
Total 13 States	400,085	206,200

¹Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crops.

Source: USDA NASS Potato Stocks, February 15, 2008

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Nebraska Field Office

Crop Summary: Marketing Year Average Price and Value of Production, Nebraska and United States, 2005-2007

Crop Summary: Marketing Year Average Price and Value of Production, Nebraska and United States, 2005-2007							
Crop	Prod. Unit	Price			Value of Production		
		2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
Nebraska		<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
Corn for Grain	Bushels	1.92	3.00	4.00	2,439,360	3,534,000	5,888,000
Soybeans	Bushels	5.55	6.05	9.95	1,306,082	1,515,525	1,894,331
All Hay (baled)	Ton	49.50	90.50	89.50	337,970	510,499	546,867
Alfalfa Hay (baled)	Ton	50.00	91.00	91.50	231,250	375,375	384,117
All Other Hay (baled)	Ton	46.00	83.00	77.50	106,720	135,124	162,750
Winter Wheat	Bushels	3.36	4.57	6.20	230,630	279,684	522,536
All Potatoes	Cwt.	8.45	7.40	7.30	69,670	64,602	58,772
Sorghum for Grain	Cwt.	3.05	5.54	6.95	37,149	59,566	91,540
Dry Edible Beans	Cwt.	17.30	21.30	29.30	66,951	58,106	70,847
Sugar Beets ²	Ton	43.10	44.50		39,824	59,942	
Proso Millet	Bushels	3.35	4.25	4.50	14,656	10,285	18,720
Sunflower (all)	Cwt.	14.10	13.10	19.60	19,998	8,186	11,729
Sunflower (oil)	Cwt.	11.60	13.20	18.30	9,419	4,910	7,488
Sunflower (non-oil)	Cwt.	17.40	13.00	22.50	10,579	3,276	4,241
Oats	Bushels	1.63	1.99	2.80	7,139	4,030	6,664
Barley ¹	Bushels						
United States							
Corn for Grain	Bushels	2.00	3.04	4.00	22,198,472	32,094,586	52,090,108
Soybeans	Bushels	5.66	6.43	10.40	17,269,138	20,415,948	26,752,197
All Hay (baled)	Ton	98.20	110.00	133.00	12,584,783	13,791,407	16,960,936
Alfalfa Hay (baled)	Ton	104.00	113.00	138.00	7,342,000	7,668,870	8,972,483
All Other Hay (baled)	Ton	81.40	103.00	120.00	5,242,783	6,122,537	7,988,453
All Wheat	Bushels	3.42	4.26	6.65	7,171,441	7,710,014	13,669,482
Winter Wheat	Bushels	3.32	4.17	6.65	4,954,276	5,383,086	9,484,995
All Potatoes	Cwt.	7.06	7.33	7.12	2,991,495	3,225,871	3,197,746
Sugar Beets ²	Ton	43.50	44.80		1,193,151	1,526,209	
Sorghum for Grain	Cwt.	3.33	5.88	6.95	737,038	885,394	1,950,936
Dry Edible Beans	Cwt.	18.50	22.10	26.40	516,420	556,149	677,446
Barley	Bushels	2.53	2.85	4.10	527,633	498,691	851,682
Sunflower (all)	Cwt.	12.10	14.50	21.30	487,654	308,832	606,991
Sunflower (oil)	Cwt.	10.50	14.10	21.00	340,584	249,848	517,853
Sunflower (non-oil)	Cwt.	17.30	16.80	23.20	147,070	58,984	89,138
Oats	Bushels	1.63	1.87	2.50	195,150	181,005	228,613
Proso Millet	Bushels	3.19	4.09	4.35	43,660	41,748	72,623

¹ Estimates discontinued in 2005. ² Estimates for 2007 published in July 2008.

Note: All prices in this report are marketing year average prices which do not include allowances or adjustments for commodities under government loan at the end of the marketing year, commodities forfeited to the Commodity Credit Corporation, loan deficiency payments, direct and counter cyclical payments or disaster payments.

Source: USDA NASS Crop Values 2006 Summary, February 2007

2007 county data for wheat and oats is now available at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Data_and_Statistics/Quick_Stats/index.asp

2007 county data for corn, soybeans, sorghum, and sunflowers will be available March 7.

U.S. Hired Workers Total 778 Thousand, U.S. Wage at \$10.77

There were 778,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches the week of January 6-12, 2008. Of these hired workers, 599,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees working on farms and ranches made up the remaining 179,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.77 per hour during the January 2008 reference week.

Field workers received an average of \$9.64 per hour, while livestock workers earned \$10.19 per hour. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate was \$9.87 per hour.

The number of hours worked averaged 38.4 hours for hired workers during the survey week.

Farm Labor: Number and Wage Rates for Type of Workers and All Hired Workers, Selected Regions and United States, January 6-12, 2008¹

Region ²	Hired Workers	Wage Rates			
		All Hired Workers	Type of work		
			Field	Livestock	Field & Livestock
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Dollars Per Hour</i>		
Lake	40	11.72	10.93	10.67	10.75
Cornbelt I	27	11.60	10.79	10.92	10.85
Cornbelt II	27	11.42	11.38	10.82	10.90
Northern Plains	21	11.70	11.31	11.04	11.15
Southern Plains	59	9.81	8.49	10.03	9.30
Mountain I	19	10.40	9.62	9.98	9.90
Mountain II	16	9.96	9.08	9.47	9.30
United States	599	10.77	9.64	10.19	9.87

¹ Excludes agricultural service workers.

² Regions consist of the following: Lake: Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin; Cornbelt I: Illinois, Indiana, Ohio; Cornbelt II: Iowa, Missouri; Northern Plains: Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota; Southern Plains: Oklahoma, Texas; Mountain I: Idaho, Montana, Wyoming; Mountain II: Colorado, Nevada, Utah.

Source: USDA NASS Farm Labor, February 15, 2008

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